MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

4 APRIL 1983

PLO Affairs

'Arafat-Husayn Talks -- PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and Jordanian King Husayn held three rounds of talks in Amman on 2-3 April, according to reports by Amman radio. 'Arafat said the results of the talks will be submitted to an extraordinary Arab summit conference which will be held in Fes in mid-April, Radio Monte Carlo reported. After reporting a "pessimistic atmosphere" on 2 April regarding the possibility that 'Arafat would mandate Husayn to negotiate on behalf of the Palestinians, the radio said the talks continued on 3 April in a "less pessimistic atmosphere." Nevertheless, the PLO leaders informed Jordan of their refusal to participate in Middle East talks based on President Reagan's plan, the radio revealed. Asked whether he would accept a compromise between the Reagan plan and the Fes resolutions, 'Arafat said he is committed to whatever the Arabs decide at summit level, the radio added. According to Amman radio, 'Arafat told newsmen that the Reagan plan requires U.S. ability to halt the "Judaization of lands" and the settlement program. He said the U.S. decision to suspend the supply of F-16 aircraft to Israel is a "positive move" but he criticized U.S. military support for Israel.

Commenting on the talks, Amman's AR-RA'Y said that President Reagan's telephone conversation with King Husayn on 2 April gave impetus to the 'Arafat-Husayn talks and that 'Arafat's decision to delay his departure from Amman for 48 hours in order to hold a PLO Executive Committee meeting illustrates the significance of what was discussed. The paper also claimed that Husayn was behind the U.S. decision to suspend the shipment of F-16's to Israel and that Reagan pledged to Husayn to achieve a freeze in the Israeli settlement program in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Earlier, AR-RA'Y praised the U.S. decision to suspend the shipment of F-16's but cautioned that the importance of the move depends on its effectiveness in securing Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon, Amman radio reported.

PLO Radio on Peace Opportunities -- Neither the PLO nor Jordan would hesitate to accept and support a definite peace option based on the fulfillment of the Palestinian people's national rights, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio declared in a 2 April commentary. But if the option now offered conflicts with the rights and interests of the Palestinians, Jordanians, and the Arab nation, the radio cautioned, then "we must all tackle the matter" and face events with resolution and understanding. The radio asked rhetorically why the Palestinians should be expected to believe that the U.S. Administration can achieve a peace based on "some justice" in the West Bank and Gaza when it is incapable of impressing its "seriousness" on the Lebanon issue. The radio said the ball is now in the U.S. and Israeli court since "we really do not see any peace opportunities or justifications for any side to accuse us of obstructing or wasting peace opportunities."

Egypt

The meeting between Yasir 'Arafat and King Husayn "is a golden and valuable opportunity which the Palestinian cause must not miss," Egyptian President Husni Mubarak declared during a Beijing news conference broadcast by Cairo radio on 3 April. He added that if the Palestinians and Jordan do not agree on a "relationship" the blame will remain with the Arabs for not having helped generate momentum for the peace process. Commenting on Egypt's relations with other Arab states, Mubarak stressed that existing differences are "superficial and temporary" and will "disappear." He noted that Egypt is continuing relations and contacts among all states of the Arab nation. On relations with the PRC, Mubarak said his discussions with PRC leaders dealt with consolidating bilateral relations and intensifying cooperation in all areas. He pointed out that economic, agricultural, scientific, and technical cooperation agreements have been signed and noted that the volume of bilateral trade amounts to $184 million.

Lebanon

Tripartite Negotiations -- Foreign Minister Elie Salim denied that Lebanon has reached final agreement with Israel on any matter currently under discussion, Beirut radio reported on 1 April. While denying that Lebanon, Israel, and the United States have agreed to form a joint military committee, Salim said the proposal for such a committee has been under discussion for some time but no agreement has yet been reached. Lebanese official sources also announced that Lebanon rejects joint Lebanese-Israeli patrols as "out of the question" and that recent reports of an agreement to form such patrols are "incorrect and misleading," according to the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon and Voice of Lebanon radios. However, a senior Israeli official cited by Jerusalem radio affirmed that Lebanon has agreed in principle to the Israeli demand for joint patrols but he admitted that details of the agreement have not yet been finalized.

Military Situation -- The Syrians have established eight new SAM bases in Lebanon as well as two new SAM-5 bases in the Al-Masna' Syrian-Lebanese border area, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported on 2 April. The radio also said Israeli and Syrian forces in the Al-Biqa' area exchanged artillery fire on 1 April. However, Jerusalem radio subsequently reported that the IDF spokesman denied any clash had occurred and monitored Syrian media did not mention any such incident.

Haddad Statements -- "I will not resign for the moment because I know that my country is facing danger," "free Lebanon" commander Major Sa'd Haddad announced in a 1 April Jerusalem television interview. In a statement broadcast the following day by Voice of Hope radio, Haddad expressed disappointment that the Lebanese Government has not asked him and his men to stay in southern Lebanon and said anyone opposing him is insulting patriotism and "has no right to speak in the name of Lebanon."

Israel

Policy Toward USSR, U.S. -- Israel has sent indirect messages to the Soviet Union explaining that it does not plan to attack Syria and intends to evacuate Lebanon as soon as arrangements are concluded that guarantee Israeli security, MA'ARIV reported on 3 April. Earlier, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said in a Jerusalem television interview that the Soviet Union knows Israel has no intention of attacking Syria. Shamir described as "regrettable" President Reagan's announcement of the delay in supplying Israel with F-16 aircraft. Deputy Prime Minister Simha Ehrlich likewise said Reagan's reference to Israel's "conquest" of Lebanon was "offensive and surprising," according to an interview broadcast by IDF Radio. Ehrlich also revealed that he opposed the invasion of Lebanon in Cabinet meetings last June.

West Bank -- Two IDF soldiers were wounded when a handgrenade was thrown at a group of soldiers in Nabulus, Jerusalem radio reported on 3 April. The radio also noted that 400 more Arab girl students from several areas were rushed to the hospital after complaining of dizziness and headaches. Senior IDF sources cited by the radio affirmed that the alleged poisoning of Arab students is nothing but a hoax to incite the residents of "Judaea and Samaria" and to cause unrest and rioting. The radio subsequently reported that an International Red Cross representative investigating the hospitalization of girls in Janin has found no evidence of poisoning.

Saudi Arabia

The U.S. decision to suspend the shipment of F-16's to Israel indicates U.S. determination to reach a joint solution to the Lebanon issue and constitutes "effective pressure" that may make Israel abandon plans for further armed aggression against Lebanon or other Arab countries, AL-JAZIRAH asserted in an editorial reported by Riyadh radio. The decision will shock the Israelis' "arrogance" and make them realize how weak they are without U.S. support, the paper added. Earlier, Radio Monte Carlo

reported that if the United States fails to fulfill its "positive promises" to Saudi Arabia over Lebanon, the Saudis will prevent some foreign companies from undertaking development projects in the Kingdom.

As for the USSR, the Saudi paper AR-RIYAD expressed "lack of trust" in the recent Soviet statement warning Israel against attacking Syria, SPA noted.

Syria

Damascus radio affirmed on 1 April that the recent Soviet Government statement on the Middle East has met the Syrian people's hopes for "substantial support" for their national and pan-Arab causes. The radio said the statement stressed that Syria is the "citadel of Arab struggle against Israeli expansion and U.S. ambitions in the region."

In another development the Soviet defense minister will arrive in Syria "next week" leading a military delegation to inspect the recently established SAM-5 bases, Beirut Voice of Lebanon radio reported on 1 April.

Jordanian Relations With Iraq, Egypt

Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz gave King Husayn a message from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, Amman radio reported on 2 April. Meanwhile, Husayn's brother, Prince Muhammad, arrived on a private visit to Cairo, MENA noted. Official Jordanian sources announced the same day that the Jordanian under secretary for industry and commerce will shortly visit Egypt to discuss arrangements for a bilateral economic and commercial protocol, KUNA reported.

Iran

Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni urged youths who have been deceived by leaders of mini-groups living outside Iran -- particularly in France -- to "come to their senses," according to a 1 April Khomeyni message broadcast by Tehran radio on the occasion of the anniversary of the founding of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The ayatollah advised the region's governments to "make friends" with Iran, which is the "only great and mighty power" in the area. He stressed that for the past 4 years Iran has been forging ahead "without reliance on anyone save God Almighty."

In another development more than 35 "Eastern- and Western-oriented elements" were either killed or wounded in Kordestan, Tehran radio reported on 3 April.

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MUJAHIDIN REJECT IRANIAN AID, U.S. PROPOSAL

GF021328 Jidda AL-BILAD in Arabic 29 Mar 83 p 1

[Text] Riyadh -- In an exclusive statement to AL-BILAD, Gulbuddin Hikmatyar, vice chairman of the general union of the Afghan mujahidin, revealed that the union had rejected an offer from the ruling regime in Iran to support the Afghan revolution with money, arms, and weapons.

He said in his statement that the union did not accept this offer because there is a fundamental disagreement with the ruling regime in Iran. The vice chairman of the union appealed to the Islamic states to feel responsible toward the Afghan mujahidin and to support them with arms. He added: We only need arms. If we only had that, we could have settled the issue in a few months. We have liberated 90 percent of our lands. Even the capital, Kabul, is about to fall, God willing.

The vice chairman of the Afghan union appealed once more to the Islamic states and asked them to offer materiel not moral aid. He said: If the Islamic countries don't respond to our call and support us, we only hope that we will not be forced to accept the offer from Iran, which wants to contain this revolution and use it for its own interests. He reaffirmed: "We are in great need of arms to defend ourselves."

In reply to a question about the U.S. proposals to resolve the Afghan question, the chairman of the mujahidin union, Shaykh 'Abd ar-Rasul Sayyaf, said: We will negotiate with the United States through gun barrels.

BARIALAY-LED DELEGATION LEAVES FOR GDR 3 APRIL

LD031811 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] Mahmud Barialay, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, left today, at the head of a delegation to the GDR to attend the international scientific conference to be held in Berlin on the occasion of the 100th death anniversary and the 165th birth anniversary of Karl Marx.

The delegation was seen off at Kabul International Airport by Mohammad Esma'il Danesh, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and minister of mines and industry; Mir Saheb Karwal, secretary of the Party Central Committee; members of the Party Central Committee and of the Council of Ministers; deputy heads of the international relations departments of the Party Central Committee; deputy ministers of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; deputy of the protocol department of the Ministry of Foreign affairs; and the GDR ambassador to Kabul.

AGRICULTURE MINISTER LEAVES FOR SOFIA TALKS

LD031831 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] 'Abdol Ghaffar Lakanwal, minister of agriculture and land reform, left today for Sofia at the head of a delegation to participate in the third session of the Afghan-Bulgarian joint commission for economic, technical, and scientific cooperation.

The delegation was seen off at Kabul International Airport by Sarwar Mangal, minister of higher and vocational education; officials of the Ministry of Agriculture; a repersentative of the protocol department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and the charge d'affaires of the Bulgarian Embassy to Kabul.

CMLA ISSUES ORDER ALLOWING POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

BK020910 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] The chief martial law administrator has issued a formal order allowing political activities from the 1st of this month. The martial law regulation No 1 of 1982 has been amended for the purpose. The order allows political activities subject to the condition that such activities shall remain confined to parlor sittings and discussions only. Organizing any political party or canvassing or campaigning in public, providing financial or any other assistance to any political party and propagating the cause of any political party in public, including taking out any procession, has been disallowed under the order.

RELAXATION OF CURFEW HOURS IN DHAKA ANNOUNCED

BK031318 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1255 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] Curfew hours in Dhaka City have been relaxed by 2 hours from tonight. Curfew in the city will now be from 1 am to 4 am instead of 12 midnight to 5 am.

UNIVERSITIES REOPEN; EDUCATION MINISTER COMMENTS

BK030931 Hong Kong AFP in English 0745 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] Dhaka, April 3 (AFP) -- Three of the country's six universities closed following student-police violence in February reopened today with a warning from the education minister to keep political activities off the campuses.

Last week, the government ordered the reopening of the general university in Chittagong, the agriculture university in Mymenshingh, and the engineering university in Dhaka beginning today but did not say when the three other general universities, including the politically volatile Dhaka University, would resume classes.

Education Minister Dr. Abdul Majid Khan told teachers at the agriculture university yesterday that the government wants to maintain the "academic sanctity" in educational institutions.

His controversial education policy making Arabic studies compulsory in primary schools initially was the main target of the protesting students. Other issues included appeals for an end to martial law and the restoration of democracy.

Dr. Khan said the educational atmosphere on campuses "is jeopardised by undesirable activities of a handful of political elements of whom only a few would qualify as genuine students," official news agency BSS reported.

Blaming the campus political activities, he said most of the universities had fallen behind their academic programme schedules. He also said the campus protests were instigated by political circles outside the campus, leaving normally respected teachers helpless to control the situation. He admitted that students should be able to express political views as responsible adult citizens but said they should not use educational institutions as a political arena. He asked for full cooperation "to extend a secure and congenial atmosphere for the students and to restore the academic sanctity of the campus."

PUNJAB FACES AKALI DAL PLAN TO BLOCK ROADS

BK040314 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] The Punjab Government has made elaborate arrangements to deal with the situation arising out of the threatened plan by the Akali Dal to block the roads in the state today. An official spokesman told All India Radio Chandigarh correspondent that buses all over the state left for their destinations as per schedule this morning. Police has set up pickets at strategic points including bridges and is continuing patrolling of the main roads to prevent any untoward incident. The spokesman said that some miscreants at Patiala tried to set two buses on fire last evening which was however immediately put out. He said the culprits escaped to a nearby gurdwara. In another incident in Amritsar, two crackers were thrown on the Frontier Mail last evening. The spokesman said nobody was reported to be injured and the train left for its destination on time.

Over 1,000 Arrested

BK031144 Hong Kong AFP in English 1138 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Excerpt] New Delhi, April 3 (AFP) -- More than 1,000 Sikh Akali party members have been arrested since dawn yesterday in Punjab State in an apparent attempt to weaken the Sikh autonomy movement's planned traffic blockade tomorrow, reports from there said today.

The massive arrests did not spare even the legislators, the reports in Chandigarh, the common capital of Punjab and Haryana states, said.

Police Disperse Crowds

BK040750 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] In Punjab, police opened fire at Mubarak Pur in Patiala District and Phagwara in Kapurthala District to disperse violent crowds which assaulted the police party on duty this morning. Two persons were killed and two others injured in the incidents. An official spokesman said in Chandigarh today that the police also had to open fire to disperse unruly mob in Sirhand in Patiala District. No one was injured.

The state transport minister, Mr Avtar Singh Gatwali, said in Chandigarh that in spite of the call for traffic blockade by the Akali Dal, traffic on the Patiala-Jullundur and Patiala-Amritsar main routes were normal. However, traffic in Gurdaspur, Hoshiarpur, Ludhiana, Jullundur, Patiala and Amritsar Districts was partially affected.

POLICE FIRE AT MOB ADVANCING TOWARD ASSAM CAMP

BK031603 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] In Assam, seven persons were killed and 13 injured when police opened fire at a violent mob at Rajabari in Sibsagar District last night. Official sources say that 500-strong mob armed with lethal weapons were advancing toward (Latapachinga) relief camp in a bid to attack the inmates. When the police intervened, a clash flared up resulting in firing. Some of the police personnel were also injured in the firing.

Fresh reinforcements have rushed to the spot and round the clock patrolling is on. Several persons were arrested in this connection.

CONGRESS-I MINISTRY IN ASSAM EXPANDED TO 29

BK021003 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Excerpt] In Assam, the Congress-I ministry headed by Mr Hiteshwar Saikia has been expanded. Sixteen new ministers were sworn in today bringing the total strength of the ministry to 29. Of the new ministers, seven are of Cabinet rank, four ministers of state and five deputy ministers. One more deputy minister, who was to be sworn in today, was not present.

The governor, Mr Prakash Mehrotra, administered the oath of office and secrecy to the new ministers at a simple ceremony at Raj Bhawan [Governor's House] in Gauhati this morning.

ALIGARH SITUATION IMPROVED, CURFEW RELAXED

BK020943 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] The situation in Aligarh has improved further. The district magistrate told our Lucknow correspondent on the phone a short while ago that curfew is being relaxed today from 0900 to 1800 in several localities. No untoward incident has been reported from any part of the city during the last 2 days.

NEW MINISTRY ASSUMES OFFICE IN MEGHALAYA

BK021706 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Excerpt] A new 14-member Democratic Front ministry headed by Captain Williamson Sangma of the Congress-I has assumed office in Meghalaya today. The governor, Mr Prakash Mehrotra, administered the oath of office and secrecy in Shillong. Besides the chief minister, the two-tier ministry has 11 Cabinet ministers and two ministers of state.

HYDERABAD POLICE FIRE ON PROTESTING STUDENTS

BK021555 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] In Hyderabad, police had to open fire to disperse a mob of local junior college students protesting against the debarring of 11 students from examination.

MANEKA GANDHI DECLARED PRESIDENT OF SANJAY PARTY

BK031629 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] The newly-formed party Rashtriya Sanjay Manch held its first convention in New Delhi today. Mrs Maneka Gandhi, who was declared president of the party, said it will adhere to the Gandhian [as heard] principles. The convention adopted the party's constitution and the policy statements.

PRC DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR COMMITTEE MEETING

BK011728 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] A 15-member Chinese delegation led by the first vice minister of foreign economic relations and trade, Zheng Tuobin, arrived in Islamabad tonight to take part in the first meeting of Pakistan-China joint economic commission beginning tomorrow. They were received at the airport, among others, by Federal Finance Minister Ghulam Ishaq Khan.

Radio Pakistan's representative says the decision to set up the Pakistan-China joint economic commission was taken during President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq's visit to China last year.

Zheng Tuobin Comments

BK031021 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] Zheng Tuobin, leader of the Chinese delegation attending the Islamabad meeting of the Pakistan-China joint economic committee, has said that his country desires further development of friendship and economic cooperation with Pakistan.

Addressing a dinner hosted in his honor in Islamabad last night, he expressed the hope that the present meeting of the committee will help both countries indentify new ways to cooperate in the scientific and technical fields. Zheng Tuobin, who is also vice minister for foreign economic relations and trade, said the friendly relations of the two countries were further strengthened by the visits of the Chinese prime minister and President Mohammad Ziaul Haq, and in fact, these visits added a new and important chapter in Pakistan-China relations.

Earlier, Federal Finance Minister Ghulam Ishaq Khan said both Pakistan and China are striving for the development of peace and establishment of an international system under which all countries live in peace and tranquillity according to their way of life.

First Session Held

BK021605 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] At the first plenary session of the Pakistan-China joint economic committee in Islamabad today, both sides expressed their resolve to constantly promote economic relations between the two countries and also to expand bilateral relations in various fields. Both countries agreed to set up three subcommittees for trade, industry, joint venture, and scientific and technological fields. The subcommittees will review the existing relations in these fields and identify new areas for cooperation. The suggestions and recommendations of these subcommittees will be considered at the final plenary session of the committee on Monday.

Addressing the session, Federal Finance Minister Ghulam Ishaq Khan said Pakistan is determined to make bilateral economic cooperation a success so that efforts toward promotion of relations can be expedited in the interst of the two nations. He said Pakistan has laid down a solid foundation for the establishment of heavy industries with Chinese assistance and it is determined to become self-reliant in this sector.

The Chinese first vice minister Zheng Tuboin, said his country is proud of its relations with Pakistan. The trade relations between the two countries are of great importance and China is fully satisfied with the development of economic relations, he added.

KHOMEYNI 1 APRIL FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY MESSAGE

LD011043 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0727 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Message of Ayatollah Khomeyni on anniversary of founding of Islamic Republic of Iran, read by Hojjat ol-Eslam Ahmad Khomeyni at Tehran University -- live]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. "Let there become of you a nation that shall speak for righteousness, enjoin justice, and forbid evil. Such men shall surely triumph." [Koran]

I express by congratulations on the fifth anniversary of the official inception of the Islamic Republic to the noble Iranian nation and to all the wronged nations that are unde the oppression of domestic and foreign oppressors. I beseech God Almighty for the salvation of the oppressed nations. I express congratulations because in the last few years, especially in the last year, we have witnessed great political, military, social, cultural, and economic victories. Praise be to God, the nation, the Majlis, the government, the judicial establishment, and the committed members of the clergy and university staff have emerged triumphantly from the crucible of the divine trial and can feel proud and hold their heads high in the presence of God Almighty and the world. At every step, they have further vindicated the hope of the oppressed people of the world in Islam and have manifested its spiritual and material power.

Despite all the fluctuations and despite all the idle prattle of the world-devourers and their dependent lackeys, they have proved to the world that "help comes only from God and, if you assist God, He will assist you and will establish you." [Koran] God Almighty has bestowed His special divine favors on this oppressed nation, so that on the eve of the 5th year a nation which is free and independent in every respect may continue its Islamic and human life in a miraculous and victorious fashion and may look to the future with ever-increasing hope -- a nation which is frightened of no power and which has brought its political and military enemies to their knees. Despite all the diverse pressures from the superpowers and their lackeys and despite all the vast military, propaganda, and financial assistance given to the enemy of Islam and Iran by the grace of God Almighty, the Islamic Republic of Iran has most amazingly not yet asked any government or nation for its assistance. With the support of the nation and the efforts of the beloved young people, all the country's economic and military wheels have turned most befittingly in an Islamic direction. God willing, in the future the nation and the officials of the Islamic order also will continue in the same way. That is, if they remain committed to Islam and its holy teachings, each year they will be more powerful and more victorious than in the previous year.

Now, it is necessary for me to make a few points, although they are repetitive and although, thanks be to God, the nation and the government are themselves fully aware of them:

1. All of us know, or should know, that so long as the nation supports the Majlis, the government, and the Armed Forces; and so long as the government, the Majlis, and the Armed Forces serve the nation, especially in the deprived masses; and so long as they seek God's pleasure in this mutual service, no power will be able to harm this holy order. [shouts of "God is great!" "Khomeyni is the leader!" "Death to America!" "Death to the Soviet Union!" "Death to the hypocrites!" and "Death to Saddam!"] If, God forbid, either or both of them were to end their mutual service, then in the long term the defeat of the Islamic Republic and great Islam would be certain. So, to refrain from this mutual service which would lead to the defeat of Islam and the Islamic Republic woul be a major sin which should be avoided. This service is incumbent on all and all should act accordingly.

Dear brothers and sisters, at a time when the superpowers and powers have attacked us on every side in order to destroy the Islamic Republic and beloved Islam, if we are negligent and neglect our duty, the life and the religion of this deprived people will be endangered. To preserve your honor and dignity, you should remain patient and should not weaken in your resolve as the result of shortages or high prices. Wicked hoarders and profiteers should not imagine that at the moment this injustice is the same as in other conditions. Today such crimes which might lead to the defeat of the Islamic Republic are tantamount to efforts aimed at the weakening of Islam. I fear that the vengeful God may show you his wrath and that, God forbid, everyone, whether guilty or innocent, will be engulfed in his wrath and will find no means of escape. We seek refuge in God from the wrath of the forbearing God. The esteemed bazaar merchants who are the active foundation of the Islamic Republic should themselves neutralize with wise solutions the conspiracies of these evil people who are a source of disgrace to the rest of the bazaar merchants. [shouts of approval]

2. At the beginning of the new year and on the anniversary of the official inception of the Islamic Repubic, I expect all the different organizations of this republic -- the Majlis, government departments, the crusade for reconstruction, the Council of Guardians, the Supreme Defense Council, the honorable judges throughout the country, the prosecutors' offices throughout the country, the Armed Forces including the army, the Guards Corps, the mobilization units, the revolution committees, the Gendarmerie, the police, and the popular and tribal forces, may God assist them all -- to try to implement the teachings of Islam, to increase their commitment to the various aspects of this man-making ideology, to fight in the path of God, to educate , themselves, and to improve their public and private lives. When they are put right, the country also will be put right. Under the previous regimes what led to the corruption of the nation, especially the young people, was the corruption of the ruling circles, which affected the nation like a cancer and which corrupted the young people. It is most necessary that members of the clergy and university staff purify and educate themselves as well as the beloved young people, and to educate and train them to the point of expertise. If they are corrupt, the world will be corrupted. If they are edified, the world will be edified. The great ulema and the esteemed instructors of religious seminaries in various cities and the esteemed and committed university professors should try to bring the seminaries and the universities ever closer to each other. The esteemed professors and the committed intellectuals in the universities and in other educational establishments who have experienced the corruption of the former regime and who have realized the misery which the country and the nation experienced as a result of that regime should, for the sake of God Almighty and for the sake of the independence and freedom of their country, try to educate and edify the young people because learning and expertise without spirituality and religious training are a calamity which has afflicted mankind and which might cause a world conflagration. The race and rivalry between the two superpowers to acquire modern nuclear weapons, which is based on selfish and satanic ambitions, greatly threaten mankind, unless God's mercy saves mankind.

3. At this juncture when our Islamic country is engaged in the imposed war, it is necessary to explain to the Armed Forces and the beloved combatants -- those defenders of great Islam and the beloved country -- and to other officials in charge of military and security affairs that, as you have witnessed and experienced to date, your unity and solidarity have brought victory to you and the great nation along the borders and inside the country.

God forbid the least neglect of this fact and neglect of God Almighty because they will result in weakness and disintegration, and your several years of hard work and the blood of our dear martyrs will be wasted and doomed to failure. By paying attention to spirituality and the divine duties and by keeping God in mind, your unity and brotherhood will survive. Beloved young people, it is feared that bearing arms may make you bigheaded and arrogant, that you may lose your great spiritual transformation, that the satan of base desires may ensnare you, and that by ill-treating your brothers, your friendship and sincerity may disappear, to be replaced by indignation and infidelity. Such a day would indeed be a tragedy to Islam and a sore calamity for you and your friends. Therefore, increasingly safeguard this brotherhood and friendship so that the nation may continue to render you its unstinting support as it has done to date. May God be with you and protect you.

4. The judicial power, the committee in charge of implementing the imam's decree, and other committees related to them should intensify their efforts in the new year to Islamize all the establishments. By using everything in their power, they should offer no opportunity to the corrupt and deviant individuals to paint intentionally, ignorantly, or carelessly a false picture of the sacred face of the Islamic Republic by their inhumane and un-Islamic behavior. They must be ruthlessly subjected to Islamic justice. It is also necessary to explain that in the punishment of offenders and godless deviants we should not exceed the bounds and scope by Islam and the law. Failure to remain within these bounds is a crime itself from the standpoint of Islamic justice and is punishable. I beseech Almighty God to grant them success and His approval to act so decisively and with such speed to permit the Islamic Republic to claim that Islamic justice is fully implemented in our country.

An essential task is to investigate the case of prisoners and their files. It is necessary to appoint committees to pursue this matter and to investigate their cases as soon as possible. These committees should prepare a full report on prisons and prisoners as early as possible to be presented to the officials in charge of judicial affairs.

5. It is hoped that those boys and girls who have been deceived by the irreligious and unpatriotic deviants and who are wasting their lives will learn a lesson from the inhumane, un-Islamic, and unpatriotic deeds of the minigroups, will come to their senses, and will realize that the boastful leaders of these minigroups outside Iran and particularly in France -- that country which has armed the 'Aflaqite Saddam with destructive weapons for use in the destruction of Iran and in the injury and killing of the oppressed strata of our Arab inhabited areas and other regions of Iran -- have established a comfortable life for themselves, have concluded a covenant of fraternity with the blasphemous Ba'thist Party, and are supporting the powers opposed to Islam and Iran. Think for a while: Is it wise and possible to support those who demolish the homes of the oppressed and helpless masses around their innocent wives and children? Is it possible to support those who shake hands with Saddam who inflicted war and bloodshed on Iran?

We are amazed to see the decline in Islamic and humane and national values of those who suddenly have trampled upon all their claims of being the supporters of the masses, members of the intelligentsia, and supporters of freedom and independence of the country and so forth. We are indeed amazed to see that these supporters of the masses have declined so much in human standards to join hands with the enemy of Iran in the illusory hope of gaining power with its support. They were inspired by the illusory hope that the Ba'th Party would defeat Iran, dominate it, and destroy the lives and sanctity of the Iranian people. So they joined the Ba'th Party and sought refuge there in the hope of achieving something with the support of the enemy of Iran.

It is even more amazing to see that, despite this treachery of the minigroup leaders, some of the young people who have realized this treachery and who have clearly seen that there is no place and prestige left for them in Iran stubbornly adhere to their childish rancor and waste their youth and lives for these leaders' baseless desires. Not realizing that they are busy enjoying themselves in France and other countries by indulging in merrymaking and getting married, these misguided youths endanger themselves for the sake of such leaders. It is hoped that God will rouse them and make them alert, God willing. And may God save them from this trap of misery.

For the umpteenth time, I advise those hirelings who are wasting their lives abroad in futile dreams by spreading lies and false hopes, that if your eyes and ears are not blinkered and plugged by the baser desires, then you should realize that you will achieve nothing by spreading such lies and rumormongering. You had better stop wasting your lives in a futile effort that will bring you even more disgrace.

6. My final word is for the regional governments which like the unfortunate Saddam have become a tool in the hands of the United States, and which to please the United States and Israel and to safeguard their interests, particularly those of the United States, want to plague themselves with damnation for eternity and with death and dishonor in this world. Let me give you a piece of advice: In these 4 years of the life of the Islamic Republic, you have noticed that the great powers and most of the regional governments have tried to obliterate the works of prophethood and the generous Koran and have devoted all their material and moral strength to protect -- and you have protected -- the enemy of Islam. However, the Islamic Republic by the grace of God Almighty, with the support of the illustrious Iranian nation and with might and without reliance on anyone, save God Almighty, is forging ahead. [applause] All your efforts and the reserves of your oppressed nations were doomed. So give up this futile and harmful act and make friends with the Islamic Republic, which is the only great and mighty power in the region. Rest assured, the United States will not render you effective assistance in times of hardship and during trials and tribulations. As is clear from the U.S. Government's threat, the United States wants you only for its own interests. Do not side with Israel, this enemy of Islam and of Arabs, since this saturnine viper, if it had the power, would have no mercy on your young and old. At every opportunity, Iranian statesmen have proclaimed that the Islamic Republic is willing to live in peace and friendship with all its neighbors and others and that it will support Islamic governments if they are subjected to aggression. It has stood tall and with its head held high vis-a-vis perverted behavior, acts of oppression, and anti-Islamic deeds. It has no fear of any power. And since it has risen to assist God's cause, it wholeheartedly has devoted itself to his promise and hopes for victory to be granted by Him. For He has graciously commanded: "If you assist God, He will assist you and establish you." [Koran]

I humbly beseech the blessed God Almighty not to be sparing in graciously rendering aid to the Islamic Republic and the oppressed nation of Iran, graciously to ordain that the oppressors be deprived of their power in the lands of the Muslims, to grant success to the nation and Government of Iran, to aid the victory of their religion, graciously to grant us all success in serving the meek and deprived, to save the Islamic governments from negligence, and to achieve accord among Muslims.

Peace be upon God's prophets, especially their last one and seal -- God's blessings and peace be upon him and his scion -- and upon God's saints -- blessings and peace be upon them -- especially their last one and seal -- may our lives be sacrificed to the soil on which He treads at His advent. Peace and greetings to the great Iranian nation and God's mercy on the martyrs on the path of righteousness, especially the martyrs of the Islamic Republic. Greetings to their relatives and peace be upon those disabled in the imposed war, those illustrious beloved and living martyrs of the revolution. Peace be upon our dear POW's in the clutches of the foes of Islam and our lost heroes. Greetings to all their fathers, mothers, and wives. Greetings to the Armed Forces and our fighting combatants -- may God Almighty grant them succor!

[Signed] Ruhollah Musavi Khomeyni

DELEGATION LEAVES FOR KUWAIT ENVIRONMENT MEETING

LD041019 Tehran IRNA in English 0950 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Tehran, April 4 IRNA -- Deputy Prime Minister and head of the organisation for protection of environment Mirza Taheri [name and titles as received] heading a delegation left for Kuwait to participate in a ministerial meeting of the Persian Gulf regional council for enviornment protection. Issues related to the oil spill from Iran's Nowruz oil field hit by Iraqi fire will be discussed in the meeting.

OFFICIAL DEPARTS FOR GROUP 77 MEETING 1 APRIL

LD012104 Tehran IRNA in English 1938 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] Tehran, April 1, IRNA -- Ahmed 'Azizi, first deputy at the Foreign Ministry, left Tehran for Buenos Aires this morning to attend the preliminary conference of Group 77.

'Azizi heads a delegation of experts from Ministries of Finance and Commerce as well as Central Bank. Some officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs are also included.

The conference will review issues such as international trade, transfer of technology among developing nations, promotion of cooperation and trade relations. It will also study commercial ties of countries with different social and economic systems.

Until the restoration of the real power with the deprived countries, and as long as world imperialism and the Eastern and Western oppressors continue their plundering of the deprived nations, these conferences will lack the real effect and fruit, 'Azizi said. 'Azizi, prior to his departure, said the occasion will provide opportunity for the Islamic Republic to make other countries aware of its stands and hence Iran would have an active role in the conference.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF ISSUES COMMUNIQUES

Communique No 1,266

LD011734 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Communique No 1,266 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The mighty combatants of Islam, who have superiority, are continuing their battle with the Saddamist mercenaries with full force.

In the past 24 hours, fighting continued on most of our country's western fronts in the form of exchanges of artillery and mortar and other heavy arms fire between the triumphant forces of Islam and the enemy's mercenary forces. While maintaining their positions and defending their protective zones, our forces opened fire on the Saddamist concentrations, effectively and powerfully suppressed all enemy activities, and leveled the Iraqi positions. Enemy losses on the western fronts yesterday included three personnel vehicles, one personnel carrier, one ammunition dump, one mortar, and several foxholes and bunkers.

In the Marivan region, as a result of our forces artillery fire on the enemy bunkers in the vicinity of [name indistinct] losses and casualties were inflicted on the enemy.

In the southern operational regions, exchanges of fire continued during the past 24 hours and our combatant units opened mortar and tank fire on enemy engineering equipment, halting Iraqi activities. Our artillery units also opened fire on the enemy's artillery positions and halted Iraqi fire. The combatants of Islam yesterday opened fire on enemy personnel engaged in digging foxholes southeast of Sharhani and, halting their operation, inflicted losses and casualties on the enemy. In the Abadan and Khorramshahr operational zones, exchanges of fire continued yesterday across the Arvand Rud; our forces set afire one truck and five foxholes and bunkers belonging to the enemy. Yesterday, as a result of enemy heavy and long-range fire against Abadan's residential quarters, two houses were destroyed.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,267

LD021722 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Communique No 1,267 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. During the past 24 hours, exchanges of heavy weapons fire continued along the southern operational fronts. In most of that zone's fronts, the forces of Islam, through dispatches of patrol groups and tank-hunting teams and infiltration into the enemy's defensive positions, inflicted losses and casualties on the Saddamist forces. Our forces yesterday opened fire on a number of enemy personnel carriers engaged in (?deploying) forces in one of the southern fronts. As a result, more than 50 Iraqi military personnel were either killed or injured and the rest were forced to abandon their positions.

On the Abadan and Khorramshahr's operational zone yesterday, our combatant forces, while continuing to defend their positions, opened fire on the Saddamist concentrations across the Arvand Rud and destroyed three engineering vehicles and a few enemy bunkers and set ablaze part of the Iraqi Chahar Cheragh jetty. The city of Abadan yesterday came under sporadic enemy heavy weapons fire. As a result, some parts of the city were gutted.

During the past 24 hours on the frontier fronts of Ilam, Qasr-e-Shirin, and Bakhtaran, exchanges of fire continued along all contact lines. On those fronts, four enemy vehicles were destroyed as a result of our forces' fire ane a number of Iraqi personnel were killed. During exchanges of fire on the Marivan front, as a result of our artillery's heavy fire, part of the Iraqi positions and fortifications in the vicinity of [word indistinct] and Hargineh were leveled and following the destruction of a number of enemy infantry bunkers, a number of enemy soldiers were either killed or injured. In the past 24 hours, limited enemy air activities at a few southern and western frontier sectors were neutralized by our air defense units' fire.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran